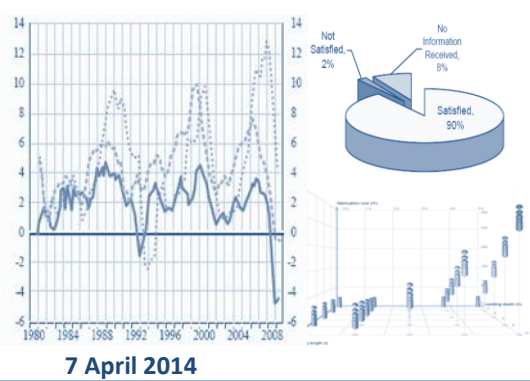




MALDIVES HEALTH RESEARCH BULLETIN



Dr. Mariyam Shakeela

Minister of Health and Gender

“This Research Bulletin is the first of its kind to be published by the Ministry of Health And Gender, focusing on health related research issues in Maldives. This Bulletin can be a good source of information for the researchers, students, or even the general public who rely on information for their research issues.

I hope that this edition would become a milestone in stepping into this unique area of research in the Maldives.

Hopefully this and future editions would become the most important resource that’s needed by the research community in Maldives.”

This Research Bulletin is published by Ministry of Health and Gender with the objective of sharing information acquired through research conducted by Maldivian researchers and those related to Maldives.

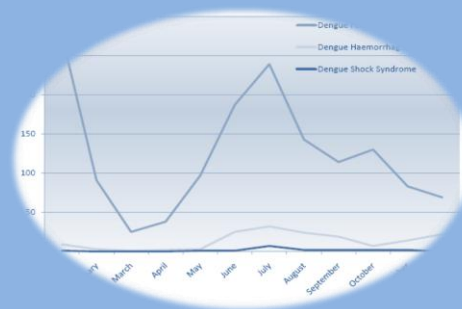
The Maldives Health Research Bulletin is published once a year by the Ministry of Health & Gender, whose mission is to promote demand driven health research in Maldives. The Bulletin is targeted at all readers interested in health research issues in Maldives, including priority health research, its planning, funding, implementation, and utilization of findings. It is also aimed at non-specialist scientists, policy and decision makers and the general public.

If you wish to contribute to future editions of this publication, please contact:

Health information & Research

www.health.gov.mv

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This publication is intended to provide accurate information and includes materials from sources considered to be reliable. It should also be recognized that the data used in this publication were accurate at the time of compilation and printing although some changes due to revision and change in collection may have occurred since then.

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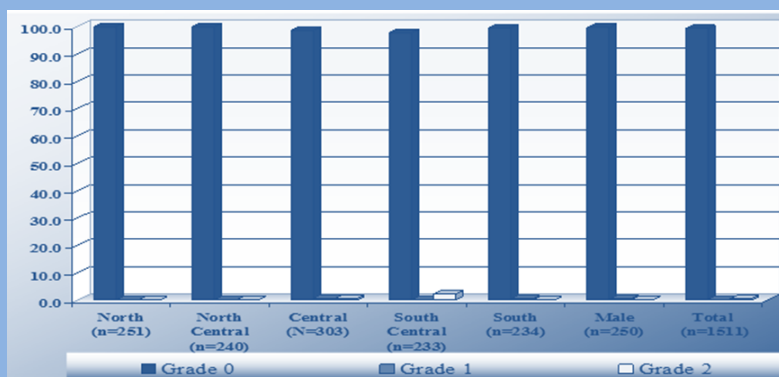
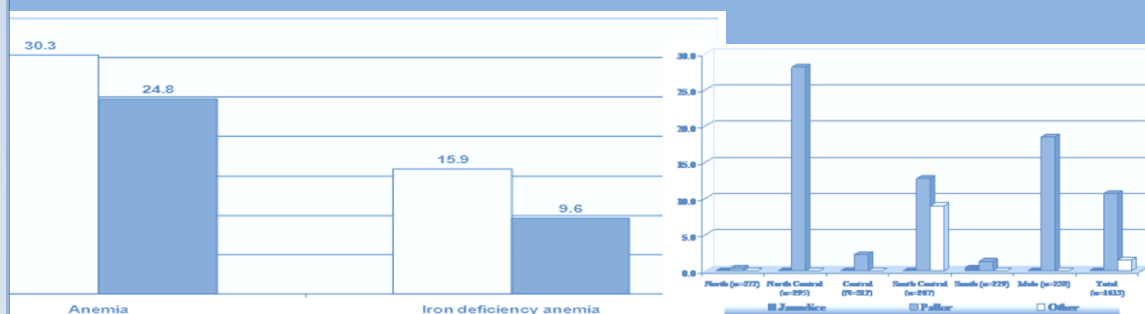
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- **ALREADY APPROVED RESEARCHES**

- **HEALTH RESEARCH PRIORITY LIST**

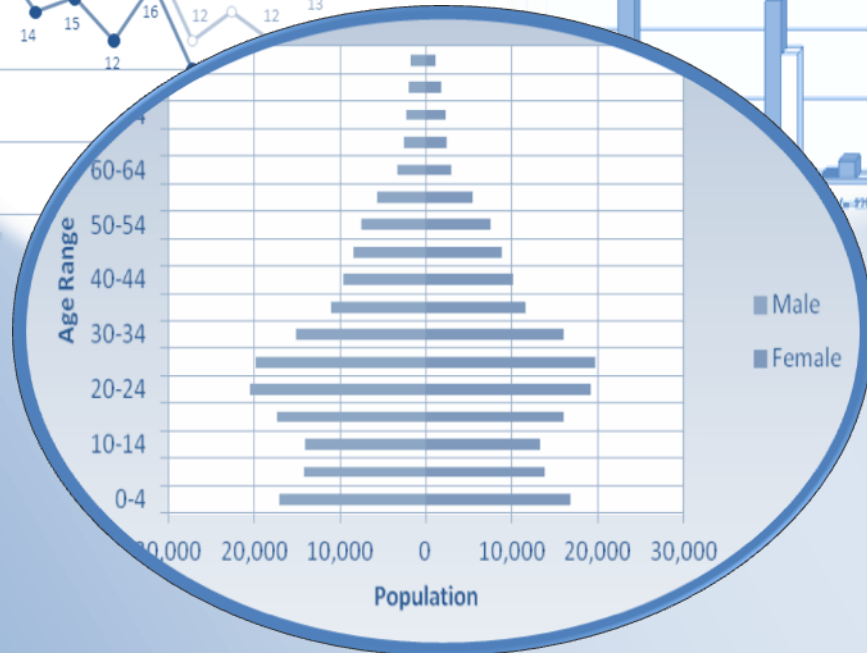
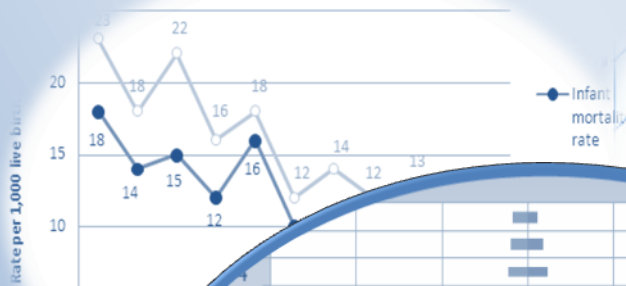
- **ON GOING RESEARCHES**

- **NATIONAL HEALTH RESEARCH COMMITTEE & PROCEDURE**



ABSTRACTS

Infant and child mortality rate, 2002- 2012



Risk behavior of sexual health and related factors among adolescent students in Maldives

Abstract is published on Journal of Public Health and Development, Vol.10 No.3 December 2012
<http://www.aihd.mahidol.ac.th/sites/default/files/images/new/pdf/journal/sepdec2012/31-46.pdf>



Ms. Zarana Ibrahim
Faculty of Graduate Studies
Mahidol University

A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted to reveal the risk behavior of sexual health among adolescents in Maldives. A questionnaire was administered to 285 students from three main private colleges in the capital city of the Maldives, Male'. The students were interviewed by an anonymous self-administered questionnaire from February to March 2012. Analysis was done by frequency analysis, Chi-square tests and multiple logistic regressions to examine the relationship between personal characteristics, knowledge, attitudes and risk behaviors of sexual health among adolescents. The result showed that 42% of the students had high risk behaviors regarding sexual health. 51% of the students had low knowledge level. Risk behaviors of sexual health were found to have a significant association with gender, allowance, educational level of the mothers, source of information and attitudes. Using multiple logistic regression analysis, attitude was found to be strongest predictor of risk behaviors of sexual health when adjusted for other factors. Students who had negative attitude towards sexual health were nearly three times to have high risk behavior than those with positive attitude (Adj OR 2.73, CI 95%, p-value <0.001).

It is recommended that knowledge be improved and positive attitudes encouraged among the adolescents. Moreover, relationships between parents and adolescents should be improved. In addition, promotion of health education via mass media by providing age appropriate information is highly needed.

**COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN HEALTH PROMOTION: A CASE STUDY OF
MALDIVES.**



**Ms. Asma Ibrahim Suleiman, PhD Candidate
Department of Social Administration and Justice
The University Malaya**

Background

Community participation was said to be important because the origins of disease lie outside the health sector, fatalistic attitude of communities as one of the obstacles to health and the acknowledgment of community participation as a socially-economically effective approach in changing people's attitude and addressing health problems. Historically, Maldives community perceived health promotion as oriented health services activities that are largely lies outside conventional treatment. Health promotion is a high priority agenda in Maldives government policies. The concepts of people participation in health development have been practicing long back in Maldives; since the world embraced Primary Health Care as the key strategy to achieve health for all.

The aims of the study is to identify segments of Maldivian community who are participating and not participating in community health promotion programs, to identify types of community participation in health promotion programmes in Maldives and to identify factors affecting Maldivian participation in health promotion programs.

Methods, a cross-sectional survey were conducted at 3 selected atolls in total 1,074 participants. The survey adopted a self-report technique. Multi-stage cluster sampling techniques were used to select the respondent for this study. The total geographical area was divided into 7 provinces and 3 provinces from Upper North, North Central and Upper South were taken for this study.

Main results, total of 1,074 respondents were administered questionnaire. The response rate of the survey was 86% (n=923). Types of community participation with factors affecting participation were analysed. Low level of involvement (13.7%) in social and civil activities was reported.

Conclusion, Community participation is without dough the greatest hope for access to effective health care for most people in living on islands. There is clearly a need to develop competency in knowledge, skills and inculcating the right and positive attitudes for island health, with hope of developing rural leadership in health care.



**Patient Satisfaction towards the Service Quality at Outpatient Department
of Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital (IGMH) in Maldives**

Abstract is published on Journal of Health Research. (ISSN 0857-4421) <http://www.ihealthres.org>



Mr.Mohamed Zaid
Master's degree of Primary Health Care Management at
Mahidol University, Thailand

This cross-sectional descriptive study investigates patients' satisfaction by assessing their expectations and perceptions of service quality in outpatient department (OPD) of Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital (IGMH), Maldives. A modified SERVQUAL 21-item instrument was used to assess patients' expectations before and perceptions after receiving the service from OPD. A total of 320 patients were purposively selected. Descriptive Statistics, chi-square test and Multiple logistic regression were used in analysis. The Vpatients' age ranged from 18 to 65 years. The distribution of male and female were nearly equivalent. Most of them finished secondary level of education and worked as a civil service. The finding showed that 18.4% of respondents were satisfied with the service quality of OPD and 81.6% were dissatisfied with the service quality of OPD of IGMH. In particular, the findings showed a significant service quality gap between customer expectations and perceptions with regard to all dimensions. The chi-square test showed that age and perceived needs were significant association with patient satisfaction. Multiple logistic regression revealed that age and perceived needs were found to be predictors of patient satisfaction. Youth patients were nearly three times more likely to be satisfied than those of adults (Adjusted OR=2.84; 95%CI: 1.517-5.320), and patients with low and moderate perceived needs were also nearly three times more likely to be satisfied than those with high perceived needs (Adjusted OR=2.68; 95%CI: 1.286-5.565). Subsequently, further research on the quality of services provided within the departments and assessment of employee performance will greatly contribute the hospital management in making necessary changes that will lead to improving the quality of services provided by the hospital that is better in meeting with the patients' expectations.

Title of Study Proposal

“Proposal to conduct review of medical records to validate the Causes of Death reported by the Vital Registration System in the Republic of Maldives”

“Role of nurses and midwives in emergencies and disasters: A case study”

“Nursing Service Quality as Perceived by Nurses and Patients in the Tertiary Care Hospital, Maldives”

“2010 HIV Biological and Behavioral Survey (BBS) in Prison”

“A Case Study of Women’s Health in Male,’ Republic of Maldives.”

“The Psychological well being, emotional distress and resilience in adolescent living with thalaseemia in Maldives.”

“Quality of Work Life and Job Performance Among Nurses in the Tertiary Care Hospital, Maldives.”

“Health reform in the Maldives, Exploration of its impact on public sector employees and service provision.”

“Knowledge, Attitude and Practices of women of Reproductive Age of 20-50 years ‘related to cervical cancer in the Maldives”

“Patient Satisfaction with nursing care in Maldives.”

“Smoking among Secondary School Students in Male’ Maldives.”

“Prevalence and Risk Factors of non fatal road traffic injury among adult motor cycle riders in Male’ Maldives.”

“Patient satisfaction towards the service quality of outpatient department of Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital in Maldives.”

“Knowledge, attitude and risk behavior of Sexual health among adolescents in Maldives.”

Wellbeing and social connectedness of Older People in the Small Island Developing State of Maldives.

National Drug Use Survey – Maldives 2011

“Prevalence and risk factors of low back pain among nurses of Indhira Gandhi Memorial Hospital (IGMH) in Maldives.”

“A Cohort Study of Postnatal Depression, Infant Feeding Practices and Infant Growth in Male’, the Republic of Maldives”

“Using EBP Champions, to implement evidence-based practice in Maldives.”

“Respiratory systems in relation to air conditioning and dampness in homes and workplaces among office workers in Male; Maldives”

Priority setting is one of the most important issues in a health research system, and no health system, especially in developing countries, can afford to pay for every research they want to do. Difficult decisions must be made as the gap increases between the need for health system research and the amount of money available to provide them.

Composing a priority list for research enables research and development agencies, funding bodies and other international actors to respect these priorities in funding and conducting research.

The Research Priority list will be updated regularly.

No	Research Areas	Division/Department for technical input
1	Telemedicine	Policy Planning Division
2	Quality of care in hospital	Health Service Division
3	Patient provider relationship, improve quality & save money	
4	Root case analysis	
5	Specific blood group in Maldives.	Maldives Blood Services
6	Thalassemia and other hemoglobinopathies	
7	Socio-economic Aspects of Thalassemics	
8	Hemoglobin among blood donors in Maldives.	Health Protection Agency
9	TB risk	
10	Biological and behavioral survey on HIV/AIDS+ qualitative in-depth study component on social risk behavior	
11	Impact of social determinants of health on non-communicable diseases.	
12	Mental health	
13	Obesity among Maldivian adults	
14	Tobacco seeking and consumption behaviors.	
15	Road traffics injuries and fatalities.	
16	Vector identification	
17	Health care waste Management in Maldives	
18	Use of use of mercury thermometers and BP apparatus in the hospitals	

19	The relationship between Climate variability and dengue fever in Maldives.	Health Protection Agency
20	The relationship between air-population and increased ARI in Maldives.	
21	KAP study among the garage workers with regards to the safe use of pesticides	
22	Adolescent health issues including mental health	
23	Health aging	
24	Sexual and reproductive health.	
25	Sexual and reproductive health	
26	Child health and nutrition –IYCF, mental nutrition	
27	Immunization and related issues	
28	Immunization Data Quality Audit (DQA)	
29	Vaccine refusal, vaccine movement/missed immunization opportunities.	
30	Pneumococcal disease burden.	
31	Community Immunity threshold estimates for selected vaccine preventable diseases.	
32	Effectiveness of treatments for substance abuse in Maldives..	National Drug Agency
33	Effectiveness of MMT in Maldives.	
34	“Methadone plus” of MMT in Maldives.	
35	“Drug Law” in Maldives, how Maldives has moved ahead in combating substance abuse by establishing “Drug Law” when compared to Asia-Pacific region and SAARC countries.	
36	“VANUVAA”, the unknown drug of abuse.	
37	Co-occurring disorders among substance abusers in Maldives.	
38	Relapse rates in Maldives. Why? A comparative study with other countries.	
39	Substance abuse in Maldivian prison population.	
40	Adolescents on substance abuse in Maldives. Why more and more of them are resorting to substance abuse? A comparative study with other country.	
41	A correlative study on school drop-outs and substance	

41	Detoxification (Inpatient/Outpatient) in island health center settings.	National Drug Agency
41	Treatment of Benzodiazepine addiction in various clinical settings.	
42	Polysubstance abuse among pregnant women.	
43	Women and substance abuse in Maldives.	
44	Increase in the prevalence of IDUs in Maldives.	
45	Effectiveness of NGO operated DICs in Maldives.	
46	Effectiveness of NGO operated VCTs and VCTs in Maldives.	
47	Long term treatment options for substance abuse in Maldives-Best Practices.	
48	Comparative study on drug abuse in Maldives and neighboring countries.	
49	Maldives attitude towards substance abuse.	
50	Various street drug in Maldives.	
51	Benzodiazepine abuse in OST.	
52	Additional OST programs-a feasibility study in Maldives.	
53	Drug peddling in Maldives	
54	Heroin withdrawal seizures.	

Here is the detail of researches that have been approved by the National Health Research Committee (NHRC) in 2014 up until now.

TITLE OF STUDY PROPOSAL
“A study on patient satisfaction towards services rendered by emergency and trauma department of Indhira Gandhi Memorial Hospital, republic of Maldives.”
“How should e-cigarettes be regulated in Maldives?”
“Health Seeking Behavior, representative of male’ Maldives.”
“Assessing the financial sustainability of universal health insurance scheme “AASANDHA” in the Maldives.”
“Lifestyle Intervention Program for the Prevention of Diabetes”
“Prevalence and factors related to pre hypertension among adult in Baa.Atoll Republic of Maldives.”

The National Health Research Committee (NHRC) was established in 1999. It was established as per a strategy outlined in the Health Master Plan 1996-2005 in order to strengthen the development and implementation of research relating to the health sector. The Health Information Unit at the Ministry of Health and Gender is the secretariat of this Committee. Since the establishment of the NHRC, it was agreed that all health sector research projects be submitted to the Committee and its approval be sought before implementation. In this regard, the Ministry of Health and Gender issued a circular (23-C3/99/C-24) on August 15, 1999 to implement this strategy effective from September 01, 1999.

With effect from this date, the NHRC received several research proposals for approval. However, due to the lack of proper guidelines, the proposals received by the Committee were found to lack in some important aspects that had to be reviewed under the mandate of the Committee. A guideline was developed to assist medical and nursing practitioners, programme managers, students and other health care researchers in developing research proposals for submission to the NHRC. This revision is made along with Committee. different formats to be used so that uniformity in submissions can be ensured along with all relevant documents to facilitate appropriate review by the members of



Application for Research Registration and Approval

Each proposal submitted for approval should have a Research Registration Form completed with it. The Research Registration Form and copies of the guideline can be obtained from the Monitoring And Coordination Section of Ministry of Health and Gender and on the Ministry of Health and Gender Website at www.health.gov.mv. Proposals should be submitted to the Ministry in print and in electronic form. One copy of the printed proposal should be submitted to the Monitoring And Coordination Section (Health Information Unit) at Ministry of Health and Gender. Proposals can also be mailed to ppd@health.gov.mv.

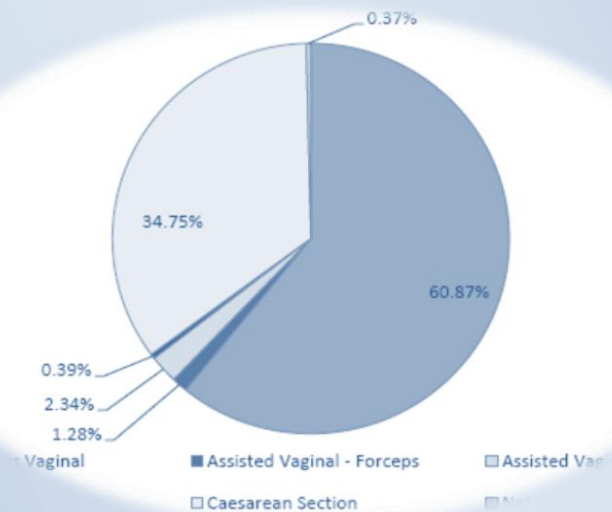
National Health Research Committee, Health Information Unit, Monitoring and Coordination, Ministry of Health and Gender, Tel: 00 960 32 8887 ext: 182, 150 Email: ppd@health.gov.mv

The logo for the National Health Research Committee (NHRC) features the letters 'NHRC' in a large, stylized, blue serif font. The letters are slightly shadowed, giving them a three-dimensional appearance as if they are floating or standing on a surface.

All the research abstracts in this bulletin are published with the approval of its researcher.

The abstracts included are taken from the research materials submitted by the researchers to the National Health Research Committee (NHRC) which was Commissioned by the Office of the President on 16 September 2002. The Committee consists of key government stakeholders and non-governmental organizations relating to the health sector.

All the health related research studies conducted in Maldives needs approval of this committee. Each year a number of proposals by students and government/non-government organizations have been evaluated for its scientific merit and ethical consideration by this committee.



VOLUME 1

Maldives Health Research

BULLETIN

Ministry of Health and Gender (MOHG)